

Chinook's Edge School Division Visioning Project

NOW

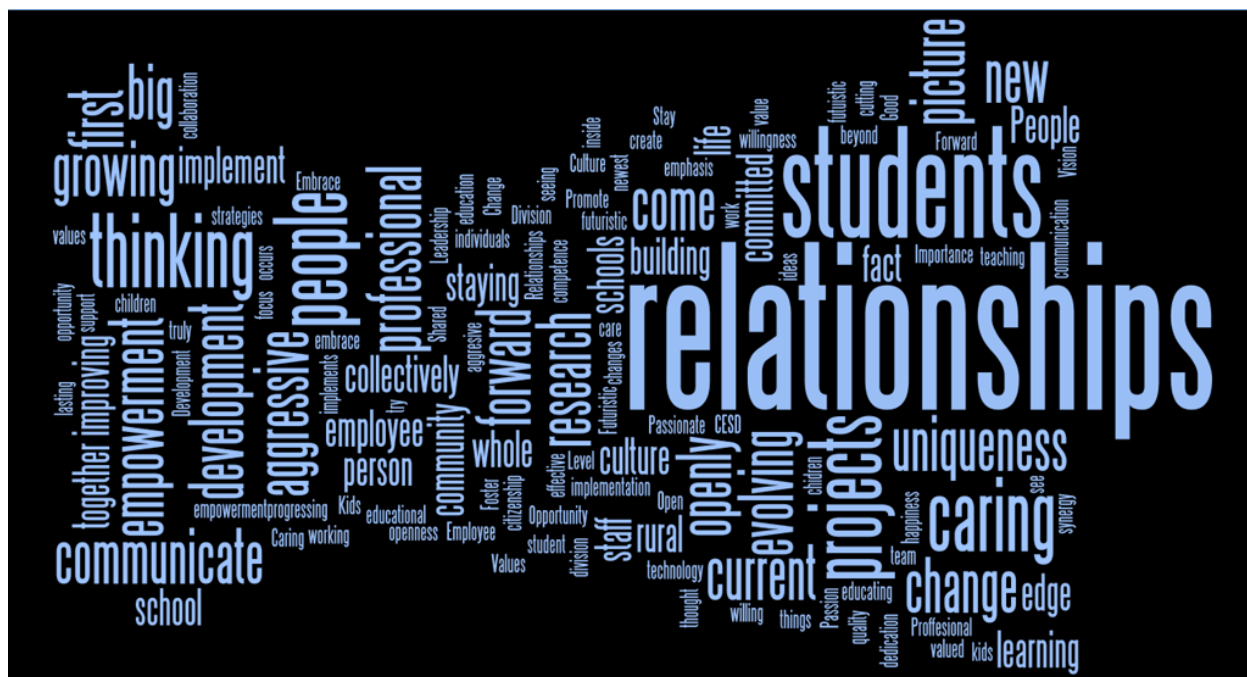
2015

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November 26, 2010 Meeting Highlights

Members of the Guiding Coalition came together for the first time on November 26, 2010. After introductions and a welcome from Superintendent Kurt Sacher and Assistant Superintendent Dr. Dot Negropontes, members were grouped at tables of five. Each group discussed responses to two questions. Highlights of those responses, along with a Wordle of each, follows (a Wordle captures the most commonly used words and produces a 'word cloud' graphic to depict the concepts):

What do you value the most about Chinook's Edge?



- The dedication I see from special individuals who see to it that students DO come first.
- The commitment to guiding students into the 21st Century, preparing them for life not only in post-secondary education but also as citizens in general terms. The emphasis on technology use and skills is an essential part of that.
- The willingness of Chinook's Edge staff to communicate openly and work together to ensure students are getting the most out of their education. My children have the sense that Chinook's Edge staff are caring and that they encourage students and parents to be active participants in the school environment.

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- This is a forward-thinking division which recognizes the uniqueness of each school environment.
- The face-to-face, rural, caring community nature of our schools has been preserved, even while we are continually keeping up with educational best-practices and being technologically current.
- We have fostered a culture of people who truly care about students as a whole person and we unite efforts to give them the best learning and life environments possible.
- I value the many opportunities to better ourselves and keep current through staff professional development opportunities. These, then, translate back to the student. Chinook's Edge gives our students the most up to date and knowledgeable teachers and EAs, so that success is most certain.
- Chinook's Edge is striving to implement new research, strategies and technologies.
- All members of the school community are valued.
- We are collectively committed to do what is right for students: embracing and valuing our strong relationships which we use to make best choices for students. This level of synergy focused on every child is truly what makes Chinook's Edge a great place for children to become strong, successful individuals in today's world.

What do you think education will look like in the future?



- Education in a rural school division, especially at the high school level, will continue to develop the distance education model so that the most rural students will gain more and more opportunities to learn under teachers who are most highly trained in specialized subjects.
- Education will have to become a collaborative environment of all community service agencies (education, FCSS, Neighbourhood Place, recreation departments, health region, children's services, local/provincial government). This all-encompassing supportive learning environment, with supports and programs from birth to kindergarten, will enhance the successful literacy development of all young children, seeing this as the essential building blocks to a learning world that can then use the connectivity of the 21st Century world to create critical thinkers who are ready to compete in a global economy and global society.
- I believe that technology has had, and will continue to have, a tremendous impact on the future of K-12 education.
- Educators are recognizing the influence they have in the development of the whole child: cognitively, socially, emotionally, physically, mentally and spiritually. This allows the development of critical thinking skills and societal skills that are needed for success.
- Education in the future will focus on meeting a child where they are at and taking them where they can go. In the past, the focus had been on following a curriculum, however recently there has been insight into determining where a child fits within that curriculum and how to adjust teaching to meet the child at their level.
- I believe that Inspiring Education and Setting the Direction (provincial government projects) are leading education in Alberta in a positive direction.
- I think that education will be better able to be adapted to individual needs.



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